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08-58545 (E)

1. Christian Democratic International (Special; 1950)

Nature and objectives

Christian Democratic International (CDI) is an organization of political parties and organizations inspired by integral Christian humanism. Its main values and objectives are as follows: promotion and defence of human rights and national and international peace; recognition of the social nature of the human being and defence of basic social institutions, particularly the family; promotion and defence of democracy and democratic institutions; promotion of integral human development, with respect for nature and the preservation of natural resources; application of subsidiary, solidarity and justice through the social market economy.

In order to respond adequately to the new realities which have emerged since the end of the cold war and the establishment of democracy in a considerable number of nations, CDI launched an internal reform process which resulted in the adoption, on 8 and 9 June 1995, of a basic document on principles and values of Christian democracy and of new statutes. During the period covered by this report, CDI expanded its geographical scope; its membership increased from 67 members at the beginning of 1994 to 76 members at the end of 1997.

Relations with the United Nations and participation in its activities

CDI representatives have been accredited every year to the three United Nations headquarters (New York, Geneva and Vienna), the regional economic commissions and the Department of Public Information at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

CDI has participated in United Nations conferences, including the World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen, March 1995) and the conferences on women's rights (Beijing, 1995) and population (Cairo, September 1994). It has also participated in the annual sessions of the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva, where it has delivered statements on various agenda items.

It has participated in the conference and annual meeting of non-governmental organizations accredited to the United Nations in New York.

The central theme of the Eleventh General Assembly of CDI (Brussels, 8 and 9 June 1995) was the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations.

On 16 April 1994, the Deputy Secretary-General of CDI, together with the Secretaries-General of Socialist International and Liberal International, visited the Secretary-General of the United Nations in New York to express their organizations' support for the World Summit for Social Development, which was to be held the following year in Copenhagen.

The President of CDI met in Geneva on 13 February 1997 with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Director-General of the International Labour Office (ILO) and the Deputy Director-General for ILO Activities in Europe.

International conference

CDI has held conferences on the following topics, which coincide with the objectives of the United Nations or its subsidiary bodies: "Humanism and democracy in the twenty-first century" (Santiago, 8 and 9 January 1994), at which the President of Chile made a statement; "An economy with a human face" (Manila, 19 to 23 November 1995), at which the main speaker was the President of the Philippines; "Human development in Latin America" (Santiago, 22 to 24 August 1996), at which the President of Chile was the main speaker; "Political development and religious currents in the Mediterranean basin" (Barcelona, 26 and 27 February 1997), at which representatives of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and of the President of the European Union, respectively, made statements; "Globalization and National Identity" (Paris, 6 November 1997), at which the main speaker was the President of Romania.

Promotion of peace and democracy

This is considered to be one of the organization's primary responsibilities and it has received ongoing attention. To this end, the President, Vice-Presidents and Secretary-General of CDI have visited the following countries: Argentina, Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Chile, Belgium, the Netherlands, Spain, France, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Italy, Austria, Lithuania, Poland, Slovenia, Hungary, Romania, Norway, Israel, Palestine, Tunisia, Morocco, Jordan and the Philippines.

There they met with member parties and organizations of CDI, if any, participated in conferences on topics related to the principles and objectives of CDI and, whenever possible, met with government authorities, religious leaders and leaders of civil society. CDI has issued political statements and press releases on the following topics: elections in Equatorial Guinea; condemnation of the attempted coup d'état in Paraguay; need to advance towards unity in Europe; situation in southern Lebanon; presidential elections in Uganda; presidential elections in the Russian Federation; elections in Nicaragua; situation in the former Zaire; democracy for Myanmar; Oslo Agreement on peace in Guatemala; lifting of the embargo on the shipment of food and medicines to Cuba; proposals of CDI to promote positive change in Cuba; solidarity with the people of Yugoslavia and with the democratization initiatives of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe; threats to democracy in Colombia.

Documents and publications

CDI has streamlined its publications in order to adapt to the new international reality and to its new working methods. Its publications include the CDI newsletter (six issues published in French, English and Spanish) and the proceedings of its international conferences.

2. National Council of Women of Thailand
(Special; 2000)

The National Council of Women of Thailand under the Royal Patronage of Her Majesty the Queen (NCWT) was founded on 9 September 1956, and has been under the ROYAL PATRONGAGE OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN SIRIKIT since 5 May 1961.

In 1960, NCWT became an organizational member of the International Council of Women (ICW) in 1980; NCWT became a member of the ASEAN Confederation of Women's Organizations (ACWO)

OBJECTIVE: A peaceful and stable nation must have as its foundation kind, considerate, and sympathetic citizens. These qualities should be instilled in everyone since childhood by their parents, who are the most significant people in setting examples on how to behave righteously as well as instilling and cultivating good morals in the mind of their children.

This is an extremely important task which I would like to entrust the National Council of Women of Thailand to share with all the Thai women. The key message to communicate is that everyone should bring up Thai children to be a good person with kindness toward their fellow man. If all the citizens are firmly established with good morals, it will bring forth peace, security, and ultimately a permanently stable nation.

MISSION: 1. To raise the status of all groups of women including children, adolescent, adult, elderly, as well as disadvantaged women; 2. To draft the National Women Council Act; 3. To find out the possible directions and means in raising the status and quality of lives of Thai women by removing or solving problems and obstacles against the development of women and women's organizations; 4. To cooperate and coordinate with a national and international agencies both governmental and non-governmental, in carry out activities that are beneficial to women and society in general; and 5. To study, collect information, research, and exchange ideas among women organizations both domestically and internationally, for the purpose of creating the stability, security, good understanding and well-being for all people, especially women.

NCWT'S areas of work include:

1. **Improvement of Women's Status:** NCWT strives to make women's participation more accepted in society, by fighting against all typed of discrimination. NCWT encourages the improvement of women's status, and women's involvement in any social and business arenas, including in politics, both locally and nationally.

2. **Development of Family Institution:** NCWT promotes the development of the family institution within Thai society. It is necessary to promote the development of the family institution within Thai society. We strongly believe that the family is the foundation of society and directly relates to the development of women.

3. **Promotion of Young Women's Education, Morals and Ethics:** Young women need support and care during theirs childhood, to ensure that they grow up to be good citizens. A good education is

the key to success; however, this must be combined with the teaching of Morals and ethics for young girl to become a productive member of society.

4. **Work in Accordance with the Government's Policy:** NCWT will work in accordance with the Government's long-term plan for the development of women, including assessing the role of new technology in the coming years. The NCWT will work to use the new information technology to promote and improve women's status, capacities, and the quality of lives.

5. **Cooperation with International Organization:** The NCWT will closely cooperate, particularly as an organizational member, with several international organizations, for instance, the ASEAN Confederation of Women's Organizations (ACWO), International Council of Women (ICW) and Consumers International (CI); the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA) and will cooperate, as an NGO in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations. This will present a wide distribution of good image and proper roles of Thai women to foreigners.

6. **Center of Organizational Members:** The NCWT is mainly emphasized to become a focal point of organizational members throughout the country, dealing with activities pertaining to the development if women in any areas in order for women to be able to achieve their own independence and self-reliance. To achieve this, NCWT should closely cooperates and coordinates with other organizational members nationwide in any areas, especially in providing financial assistance, so that women can utilize their own local resource and potential in order to increase their earnings and to present.

ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE WORK OF THE UN AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES FOR THE PERIOD 2000-2003:

- Asia-Pacific Summit of Women Mayors and Counselors Meeting during 19-22 June 2002 at Pichanuloke province.
- Conference "Convention to Elimination all forms of Discrimination Against Women — CEDAW" on 15 November 2000.
- 27th UNICEF Meeting on "World Youth" during 19-21 September, 2001 at United Nation Building Plaza, New York, United States of America.
- 21st World Food Day on 16 October 2001 at UN-FAO Asia Pacific branch, BKK.
- Comprehensive report on "Comprehensive implementation, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance" to The High Commissioner for Human Rights / United Nation for 57th-58th Human Rights General Assembly arrangement.
- Attended the "55th Promotion and Protection of Human Rights Meeting" during 28 July-15 August 2003 in Conference Room XVIII of the Palais des Nations, United Nations.
- "Conference on Sharing experiences of passage of Domestic Violence Bill with Cambodian Women Parliamentarians" on 13 February 2003 at the Parliament Building.
- "Opening session of UNESCAP Committee on Emerging Social Issues" on 4 September 2003.

- "Women, Men and HIV/AIDs: Responding to the Challenge" on 3 September, 2003 at United Nation Conference Center.
- "23rd World Food Day" on 16 October 2003 at Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, BKK.
- "Thematic Working Group on Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality" on 10 November 2003 at United Nation Building, BKK.

Additional Activities for the period 2000-2003:

- Danang Women's Association, Vietnam during 26-29 May 2000.
- China-Tibet Women's Federation, China during 22-31 July 2000.
- Korean Democratic Women's Union, Korea during 24-29 September, 2000.
- Korean Democratic Women's Union, Korea during 17-21 June 2000.
- All-China Women's Federation, China during 23-32 October 2002.
- Vietnam Women's Union during 16-20 February 2003.

Meeting & Seminars

- ASEAN Regional Workshop to Recommended Set of Strategies to Address the Lack of Access by Women to opportunities for Employment and Skill Enhancement, during 15-17 August 2003, at Bander Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam.
- Consumer International World Congress during 13-17 November 2000 at Durban, South Africa.
- Membership: Empowerment of Young Women during 23-26 June 2004 at Malaysia.
- 20th Meeting of Asean sub-committee on Women during 25-25 October, Lao PDR.
- 10th ACWO General Assembly during 5-8 July, 2002 at Singapore.
- Saga Prefectural Coverment: Asian Women's Forum, Learn about Asian Picture Books during 11-13 October 2003 at Saga, Japan.

3. International Press Institute
(Special; 1993)

The International Press Institute (IPI) is a global network of editors, media executives and leading journalists, dedicated to protecting and furthering freedom of the press and improving the standards and practices of journalism. The main objectives of IPI are therefore: To protect freedom of opinion and expression; To further and safeguard freedom of the press; To ensure free access to news, regardless of national boundaries; To ensure the safety of journalists and their ability to report freely; To improve the practices of journalism; To increase understanding between peoples. Editors, leading journalists, and media executives from over 115 countries are integrated into this global network, which focuses on the protection of freedom of expression and opinion as a fundamental human right, as stated in Article 19 of the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Freedom of expression has been furthered by IPI through the organization of events and the publication of reports, booklets and magazines, in particular through the annual IPI World Press Freedom Review. The 2003 report was published with sponsoring from UNESCO.

The following report focuses on IPI Activities in relation with United Nations principles, United Nations Bodies and Specialized Agencies

January 2001 – New Delhi, INDIA: **Klaus Schmitter**, Senior Programme Specialist, Freedom of Expression, Democracy and Peace Programme, UNESCO, addressed the participants at the IPI World Congress in New Delhi, at the session "Freedom of Expression in the IT Era". Keynote speakers at the congress were Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajapayee, Indian Minister of External Affairs, **Jaswant Singh**, and His Holiness, the **Dalai Lama**.

May 2001 – Beirut, LEBANON: Together with the Institute for Professional Journalists at the Lebanese American University, with support of UNESCO, IPI organized a seminar called Freedom of Expression and the Media in Lebanon". Keynote speaker was Emile Lahoud, resident of Lebanon.

May 2001 – Windhoek, NAMIBIA: IPI representatives took part at a seminar in Windhoek, organized by UNESCO on the 10th Anniversary of the Windhoek Declaration.

March 2002 – Beirut, LEBANON: IPI representatives participated in a round-table on "Professional Ethics, Media Legislation & Freedom of Expression in Lebanon". Organized by The Lebanese American University's Institute for Professional Journalists (IPJ), UNESCO and IPI.

April 2002 – Almaty, KAZAKHSTAN: IPI representatives attended and spoke at the first Eurasia Media Forum, organized by the Khabar Agency. **Henrikas** Yushkiavitshus, advisor to director general, UNESCO, and the IPI Director, spoke on the issue of "Eurasia - The Role of the Media. Media Cultures - East-West Attitudes". Keynote speakers were President of Kazakhstan, **Nursultan Nazarbayev**, and President of Iran, **Mohammad Khatami**.

May 2002 – Ljubljana, SLOVENIA: **Jiri Dienstbier**, Ambassador-at-Large; former Foreign Minister of the Czech Republic; UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (1998-2001), chaired a session on "Visions for the Balkans" at the IPI World Congress in Ljubljana. In addition to the President of the Parliament of Slovenia, **Borut Pahor**, the President of Montenegro, Milo Djukanovic, President of Croatia, **Stjepan Mesic**, and the member of the Presidency, Bosnia and Herzegovina, **Zivko Radisic**, spoke at the session. **Erhard Busek**, Special Coordinator, Stability Part for South Eastern Europe, Brussels, and **Wolfgang Petritsch**, High Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina, analysed the issue "What Went Wrong in the Balkans".

September 2002 – Dakar, SENEGAL: An IPI representative attended the 10th General Meeting of the International Freedom of Expression Exchange (IFEX), which brought together more than 90 free expression advocates from 52 countries to discuss freedom of expression issues, develop regional networking, and strategies on joint action campaigns.

November 2002 – Vienna, AUSTRIA: The Coordinating Committee of Press Freedom Organizations met in Vienna in conjunction with the Vienna Secretariat's tenth anniversary celebration. In addition to the President of Austria, **Thomas Klestil**, the President of the Austrian Parliament, **Heinz Fischer**, and the Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs, **Benita Ferrero-Waldner**, **Sergio Vieira de Mello**, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Geneva, was the

keynote speaker at a special evening event, while **Freimut Duve**, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media spoke over luncheon to the members of the Coordinating Committee.

December 2002 – Paris, FRANCE: IPI representatives attended the meeting of the Council of Europe's Committee on Culture, Science and Education. Item 7 of the Agenda, "Freedom of Expression in the Media", was reserved for (a) an exchange of views between members of the Committee and representatives from IPI and Reporters sans Frontières and (b) consideration of a draft report on freedom of expression in the media in Europe.

April 2003 – Almaty, KAZAKHSTAN: IPI representatives attended and spoke at the second Eurasia Media Forum. IPI was asked to organize two panel sessions entitled "Journalists under Pressure", which gave a platform to prominent press freedom campaigners from Central Asia and the Caucasus to address the participants, and provided an opportunity for IPI ideas on media freedom to be expressed openly in local media. The Advisor to Director-General, Mr. **Henrikas Yushkiavitshus** delivered the welcome note from the Director-General of UNESCO **Koichiro Matsuura**. Again, the keynote speaker was President of Kazakhstan, **Nursultan Nazarbayev**.

April 2003 – Vienna, AUSTRIA: The IPI Director attended a conference on "The Media and the Information Society", organized by the Austrian Federal Chancellery as part of the preparations for the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS).

September 2003 – Salzburg, AUSTRIA: **Mogens Schmidt**, Director, Division of Freedom of Expression, Democracy and Peace, UNESCO, Paris, spoke at the IPI World Congress in Salzburg, participating at the session "Pluralism, Democracy and the Clash of Civilizations". **Alain Modoux**, Senior Adviser to UNESCO for the WSIS, Geneva, spoke at the session on the World Summit on the Information Society. **Maria Cheng**, Spokesperson, Communicable Diseases Section, World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva, addressed the participants on "SARS and the Media" and **Sir Peter Ustinov**, UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador, a volunteer for UNESCO, was a keynote speaker at the congress on the issue of the "Transatlantic Rift". Another keynote speaker was Austrian Chancellor **Wolfgang Schüssel**. **Yossi Beilin**, former Justice Minister and former Deputy Foreign Minister of Israel spoke at an interview session on the issue of "The Oslo Accords — 10 Years On".

September 2003 – Bucharest, ROMANIA: IPI and Romanian Radio Broadcasting Corporation, in cooperation with the Council of Europe, organized an international conference on "How to Guarantee Independent Public Service Broadcasting". The conference sought to analyze — ten years after the 1993 IPI symposium "From State-Controlled Broadcasting to Public Broadcasting" and the adoption of the Vienna Declaration on Public Broadcasting. Representatives of public service broadcasters from Central and Eastern Europe, as well as from the European Broadcasting Union (EBU), the European Commission and international NGOs, took part in the IPI conference. Keynote speakers included **Peter Schieder**, President of the Parliamentary Assembly, Council of Europe, **Ion Iliescu**, President of Romania, and the Prime Minister **Adrian Nastase**.

December 2003 – Geneva, SWITZERLAND: the IPI Director attended the biannual meeting of the Coordinating Committee of Press Freedom Organizations, which was held in conjunction with the UN-sponsored World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). **Shashi Tharoor**,

United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information, discussed with the Coordinating Committee various UN related issues of basic interest to the group.

December 2003 – Paris, FRANCE: The IPI Director during the seminar, "Israeli and Palestinian Media Professionals: Renewing the Dialogue", chaired the session "Independence of the Media and the Maintenance of Professional Standards." The meeting was organized by UNESCO in order to provide a platform for Palestinian and Israeli media professionals to discuss matters of common concern and explore venues for possible cooperation.

May 2004 – Warsaw, POLAND: In the presence of over 400 media representatives from 47 nations, at the session "Holding Member States of IGOs to their Press Freedom Commitments" **Santiago Canton**, Executive Secretary, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, Organization of American States (OAS); **Miklos Haraszti**, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media; **Paschal Mooney**, General Rapporteur on the Media, Parliamentary Assembly, Council of Europe; and **Henrikas Yushkiavitshus**, former Assistant Director-General for Communication, Information and Informatics, UNESCO, were available for discussions with participants of this IPI World Congress. **Aleksander Kwasniewski**, President of Poland, and the Prime Minister **Marek Belka**, former President **Lech Walensa**, and former Prime Minister **Tadeusz Mazowiecki**, were among the keynote speakers, as well as **Milan Kucan**, former President of Slovenia, and **Bronislaw Geremek**, Politician and Historian; former Minister of Foreign Affairs.

December 2004 – Vienna, AUSTRIA: Round table "5 years of WHO/IPI Guidelines for Professional Health Correspondents", as originally adopted in 1999 during a meeting of the European Health Communication Network in Copenhagen (keynote speaker **Karsten Koch**, Danish Minister of Health).

Over the period covered by this report, IPI also undertook many more initiatives in defending and furthering press freedom, and freedom of expression, of which we would like to mention:

INSI: At the beginning of 2003, IPI, in cooperation with the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) founded the International News Safety Institute (INSI), a non-governmental organization dedicated to promoting practical actions and fostering good practice in the provision of safety training and assistance to journalists and media staff everywhere. INSI was then officially launched in Brussels on 3 May 2003, World Press Freedom Day. It was simultaneously launched at a meeting organized by UNESCO in Jamaica. Led and managed by media professionals, INSI is a coalition of media organizations (print, broadcasting, and news agencies), press freedom groups, journalists' unions and humanitarian campaigners working to create a culture of safety in media in all corners of the world.

CASCFEN: An initiative of the IPI Azerbaijan National Committee (IPI ANC), the Central Asian and Southern Caucasian Freedom of Expression Network (CASCFEN) were set up in Baku, Azerbaijan in March 2003 during a meeting attended by the IPI Director. CASCFEN currently includes eight journalists' organizations from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan with the purpose of promoting freedom of expression and professional journalism in the region. Today, this information

network is already integrated into the International Freedom of Expression Exchange (IFEX), based in Toronto.

SEEMO: The South East Europe Media Organization (SEEMO), a specialized IPI network of editors, media executives and leading journalists from newspapers, magazines, radio, TV stations, news agencies and internet media, was founded in October 2000 in Zagreb, Croatia. It encompasses the region of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Kosovo, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Montenegro, and Romania. Its chief activities are the promotion of mutual understanding through dialogue meetings of media representatives from the various national, ethnic and religious groups. SEEMO publishes a magazine for the region "De Scripto", as well as a Media Handbook with media reports and contact addresses of leading media in each of these countries.

May 2002 – Ljubljana, SLOVENIA: Dialogue of 80 editors from South East Europe (SEE) — keynote speaker **Erhard Busek**, Special Coordinator, Stability Pact for South East Europe; **Klaus Schmitter**, Senior Programme Specialist, Freedom of Expression, UNESCO; **Alain Modoux**, former UNESCO director, Freedom of Expression.

November 2002 – Skopje, THE former YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA: Dialogue of editors from the region of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

March 2003 – Podgorica, SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO: Dialogue of editors from Serbia and Montenegro.

May 2003 – Ohrid, THE former YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA: Dialogue of editors on conflict prevention in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

July 2003 – Belgrade, SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO: Dialogue of representatives from Roma media in SEE.

September 2003 – Salzburg, AUSTRIA: Dialogue of editors from Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, Vojvodina.

October 2003 – Opatja, CROATIA: Dialogue of editors from Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro.

November 2003 – Skopje, THE former YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA: Meeting of editors and directors of private news agencies in SEE.

May 2004 – Belgrade, SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO: Participation at the UNESCO World Press Freedom Day Conference.

May 2004 – Sofia, BULGARIA: Minority Media — Vlachian/Aromanian in SEE.

June 2004 – Neum, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA: Media Dialogue of editors from Bosnia and Herzegovina, different ethnic groups.

October 2004 – Vienna, AUSTRIA: Press freedom round table with **Miklos Haraszti**, OSCE Representative for Freedom of the Media.

4. Centrist Democrat International•
(Special; 1950)

Nature and Objectives:

Centrist Democratic International (CDI) is an organization of political parties and organizations inspired by the integral Christian humanism. Its main values and objectives are as follows: promotion and defense of human rights and national and international peace; recognition of the social justice nature of the human being and defense of basic social institutions, particularly the family; promotion and defense of democracy and democratic institutions; promotion of integral human development, with respect for nature and the preservation of natural resources; application of subsidiary, solidarity and justice through the social market economy.

During the reporting period 2002-2005, CDI significantly increased its geographical presence and its membership moving from 80 members at the beginning of 2000 to over 180 members in 2005.

Relations with the United Nations and participation in its activities:

CDI has taken part in the following activities organized by the United Nations or by its subsidiary bodies: 55th DPI/NGO Conference on Rebuilding Societies Emerging from Conflicts: A Shared Responsibility"; Symposium on Human Rights (Marrakech, 2002), Working Committees on Aid for Economic and Social Development in the Defense of Human Rights around the World (New York 2003), Conference on Restructuring Societies Emerging from years of War and the Required Cooperation and Solidarity.

CDI also took part in the annual sessions of the UN Commission on Human Rights in Geneva, where it gave oral presentation on the following agenda items: 58th Session 2002: Item 11 of the Agenda; 59th Session 2003: Items 9, 10 and 11 on the Agenda; 60th Session 2004: Items 9,10,11; 61st Session 2005: Items 9,10,11,12,17,18.

In the course of the year 2004, the CDI participated in a number of events organized by the UN, defending its political objectives, such as the defense and promotion of human rights in the world through its active participation in different areas of the world.

In the two previous years, the CDI played a very important role within the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in reporting violations of the fundamental rights in the world.

In the year 2005 CDI presented in Geneva some important contributions on the human rights issues. The statements were also made under Item N.9 of the Agenda, on the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in any part of the world, and Item N. 11, on civil and political rights.

• Formerly known as Christian Democratic International.

The objective of this seminar was to present the support of the CDI to the development of Muslim Women and their involvement into the social, economic and political life of their society, within a very young democratic system, where women have much to say and have an enormous opportunity for participation, in support of the consolidation of democracy in Muslim countries such as Mauritania.

The project for the next few months in Africa is to consolidate and develop the CDI-AFRICA, in order that, little by little, it will become an active organization in Africa in the promotion of human rights and democracy.

Our presence in Asia has also been reactivated and we plan to hold meetings this year in the region on "Asian Women for Democracy and Equality" as well as on "Political Leadership for Asian Women".

At the 61st Session of the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva, from 15 March to 22 April 2005, CDI requested the registration to intervene in items N. 9, 10, 11, 17, 18 of the Agenda.

On January 2005, the UN introduced the project of the Millennium in order to "Invest in Development", precisely to fight against global poverty, hunger and disease, through a strategy drawn up by 265 experts. The CDI is committed to play an important role also in this project.

In this context of the realization of this strategy, CDI organized during the year 2005 several seminars and conferences with the participation of European and Italian parliamentarians, economic experts and human rights activists to inform and involve the citizens and the public in general on the working lines proposed by the United Nations Millennium strategy. Among the various initiatives, CDI organized the following seminars: "Stop violence and mutilations on women", Vienna 8-10 October; a seminar on the same title was organized in Rome, 14 October; "United Nations: 2005-2015 — The Millennium and the Role of Women", Rome 14-17 March; "Defense and Promotion of Human Rights in the World: a Challenge for 2006", Rome 24 October; "Development and Dialogue among Cultures", Rome 7 November.

During these years CDI participated also in the following UN conferences:

2002

- World Food Summit: five years later (Rome, Italy, 10-13 June 2002)
- General Assembly Special Session on Children (New York, 8-10 May 2002)
- Second World Assembly on Ageing (Madrid, Spain, 8-12 April 2002)
- International Conference on Financing for Development (Monterrey, 18-22 March)

2003

- High-Level Dialogue on Financing for Development (New York, 29-30 October 2003)
- 56th Annual DPI/NGO Conference (New York, 8-10 September 2003)

2004

- Unlearning Intolerance: Confronting Islamophobia: Education for Tolerance and Understanding (New York, 7 December 2004)

- Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues — Third Session (New York, 10-21 May 2004)

- Commission on Sustainable Development — 12th Session (New York, 14-30 April 2004)

- General Assembly plenary meeting and expert consultations on the Global Road Safety Crisis (New York, 14-15 April 2004)

2005

- The World Summit on Information Society (Tunis, Tunisia, 16-18 November 2005)

- The 2005 World Summit – High-Level Plenary Meeting of the 60th Session of the General Assembly (New York, UN Headquarters, 14-16 September 2005)

- 58th Annual DPI/NGO Conference (New York, UN Headquarter, 7-9 September 2005)

- Informal Hearings of the General Assembly with non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector (New York, UN Headquarters, 23-24 June 2005)

- General Assembly High Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS (New York, 2 June 2005)

- Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (fourth session): "Millennium Development Goals and indigenous people" (New York, UN Headquarter, 16-27 May 2005)

- 61st Session of the Commission on Human Rights (Geneva, 14 March-22 April 2005)

- Beijing + 10 Conference: 49th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (New York, 28 February-11 March 2005)

- Committee on the Elimination of racial Discrimination — 66th Session (Geneva, 21 February-11 March 2005)

- 10-year Review of the Implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and Program of Action and the Outcome of the 24th Special Session of the General Assembly (New York, 9-18 February 2005).

Promotion of peace and democracy:

This is considered to be one of the organization's primary responsibilities and it has received ongoing attention. To this end and under the supervision of its President and its Executive Secretary, CDI has followed very close the political processes in the Latin American, African, Asian and Eastern European countries, visiting many of them in order to establish working contacts with government authorities, religious leaders and representatives of the social society. CDI paid particular attention to

countries, which were victims of internal conflicts, monitoring the ongoing processes and intervening also with political declarations and press statements.

5. Pax Christi International
(Special; 1979)

1. Aims, Purposes and Main Course of Action of Pax Christi International

Pax Christi is committed to non-violence, demilitarization and disarmament, human security, human rights and the rule of law as the basis of peaceful societies. As a movement and a global network, the organization brings together people from many different backgrounds and cultures, to work towards a shared vision of peace, reconciliation and justice for all.

2. Major Organizational Changes

From 2003 to 2006, the membership of Pax Christi International has increased dramatically, from 36 member organization to today's number of 97. Furthermore, the geographic focus of Pax Christi has also shifted, from its core member group of European organization, to organization located primarily in the developing world. Today, approximately 39 per cent of Pax Christi's member organizations are located in Africa, 26 per cent in Europe, 19 per cent in the Asia-Pacific, 10 per cent in the Americas and the Caribbean, and 6 per cent in the Middle East.

3. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and major conferences and other United Nations meetings

Oral and written statements 2003-2006

– 59th session Commission on Human Rights 18 March-25 April, Geneva, Switzerland

Written submissions at on: Peace and Development in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda; Treatment of Asylum Seekers, Refugees and Immigrants; Religion-Based Violence; Internally Displaced Persons and Civil Peace Initiatives; the Occupied Arab Territories; Conscientious Objection; and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Oral intervention at the 59th session Commission on Human Rights on Religious Intolerance.

– Fifth Session of the Group of Governmental Experts of the States Parties to the Convention on Conventional Weapons (CCW/GGE) 16-27 June 2003 in Geneva. Intervention on Explosive Remnants of War.

– 55th session of the Subcommission on Promotion and Protection of Human Rights 28 July-15 August, Geneva. Written intervention at the on Israel and Palestine. Oral interventions at the 55th session of the Subcommission on Promotion and Protection of Human Rights on: the Situation in Vieques; the Death Penalty; Children and Iraq; and Religious Discrimination.

– Third Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organizations (CTBTO) Conference, 3 to 5 September 2003 in Vienna: Written submission on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

– 60th session of the Commission on Human Rights 15 March-23 April, Geneva Switzerland. Written submissions at the on: Peace and Reconciliation in the Great Lakes; Palestinian Citizens in Israel; Freedom of Expression; Informal Economy and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; Fight Against Terrorism. Oral interventions at the 60th session of the Commission on Human Rights on: Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; Religious Freedom.

– 56th session of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights 26 July-13 August, 2004, Geneva. Written submission on Northern Uganda. Oral interventions at the 56th session of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights on: Abolition of the Death Penalty; The Toxic Legacy of Military Activities of the United States of America in Puerto Rico and the Philippines; Discrimination of Religious Minorities; the Lack of Security and Widespread Violations of Fundamental Freedoms of the People of Iraq.

– 10 year review of the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action and the outcome of the 24th Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly: Commission for Social Development, 9 to 18 February 2005 in New York. Written submission on HIV/AIDS Orphans.

– 61st session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights 14 March-22 April 2005. Written submissions on: Fundamental Freedoms in West Papua; Integration of Women and the Gender Perspective. Oral interventions at the 61st session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights on: Death Penalty; Freedom of Religion and Belief.

– Meeting Ad hoc Group of Experts of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention Geneva, 13 to 24 June 2005. Oral intervention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction.

– 62nd session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, 13-27 March 2006, Geneva, Switzerland. Written submissions on: Operation Murambatsvina in Zimbabwe; Right to Education. Oral and written statement at the final session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, 27 March 2006.

– First Session of the Human Rights Council 19-30 June 2006, Geneva, Switzerland.

– 58th session of the Subcommission for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, 7-25 August 2006, Geneva, Switzerland. Written submission on the war in Lebanon, Israel and Gaza.

– CCW Review Conference, 7 to 17 November 2006 in Geneva, Switzerland.

4. Organization of parallel NGO meetings

Pax Christi International continued as an active participant in the NGO Committee on Disarmament Peace and Security, the AIDS Committee, the Indigenous Forum, International Coalition for the Decade of the Culture of Peace and Non-Violence, Conscientious Objection and the Values Caucus. Members of the International Secretariat as well as delegates of the movement in New York attended NGO meetings on the International Criminal Court. Representatives attended sessions of the Special Committee of NGOs on Human Rights at the United Nations in Geneva. During the United Nations Commission for Human Rights, Pax Christi International was present at parallel sessions. On 6 April 2005, the World Council of Churches convened a meeting of ecumenical partners, including Pax Christi International, to address the question of the reform of the United Nations Commission for Human Rights. The representative of Pax Christi International at the United Nations in Vienna is a member of the NGO Committee on Peace. On 2 June 2004, the Committee held a meeting with the President of the fifty-eighth United Nations General Assembly, Mr Julian R. Hunte, Foreign Minister of Saint Lucia. A joint statement was made on that occasion. Pax Christi issued an Open Letter, "Pax Christi International Calls for Ethical Approach to Biological Weapons" as part of its lobbying activities to States party to the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention on the occasion of their meeting from 6 to 10 December 2004 in Geneva. On 8 March 2005, Pax Christi organized a meeting on cluster munitions during the Tenth Session of CCW/GGE, 7-11 March in Geneva, Switzerland.

5. Participation in International Days

During the reporting period the following United Nations commemorative days were observed by Pax Christi: International Women's Day, 8 March; International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Genocide in Rwanda, 27 April; International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, 26 June; International Day of Peace, 21 September; International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, 25 November; International Human Rights Day, 10 December.

6. Activities and Advocacy in Support of Global Principles

In March 2003, Pax Christi International submitted letters of concern to the United Nations Secretary-General, aiming to prevent the war in Iraq. On 28 March 2003, a delegate of Pax Christi met with the United Nations Secretary-General to discuss the war in Iraq. On 1 April 2003, Pax Christi International in cooperation with the NGO Committee on Peace at the United Nations in Vienna, appealed to the United Nations for a Special Session on Iraq. Letters were sent to the Presidents of the Security Council and the General Assembly, as well as to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, to request the immediate convening of an "emergency special session" of the United Nations General Assembly according to the procedures given in General Assembly resolution 377 A (V) section A, paragraph 1.

In response to escalating violence in the Great Lakes region, participants of Pax Christi's Regional Consultation sent a letter on 15 May 2003 to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. In it they urged more decisive United Nations action in Ituri, in the eastern region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. On 17 July 2003, in a letter addressed to the Secretary General, Pax Christi International called for an extension of these operations to avoid further humanitarian catastrophes and to build towards a lasting peace in the region.

Pax Christi International was represented at the First Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects at the National, Regional and Global Levels, which took place at the United Nations Headquarters, from 7 to 11 July 2003.

Pax Christi International awarded Sergio Vieira de Mello, in his role as United Nations civil servant, the "Pax Christi International Peace Award 2004". The ceremony took place in New Jersey, United States of America, May 2004. A 55-person Pax Christi delegation held a series of meetings with communities centred on the United Nations, including the Office of the United Nations Secretary-General, in May 2004.

On 9 June 2004, Pax Christi International issued a statement: "Protect people in Darfur!" In a related letter, the International Secretariat urged the Secretary-General of the United Nations, to give immediate assistance to protect the people of Darfur. A coalition of 43 NGOs, including Pax Christi International, approached the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Ms. Louise Arbour, about the situation in Darfur. A copy of the letter, 23 May 2006, was also sent to all 47 new members of the Human Rights Council.

6. Human Rights Internet (Special; 1983)

PART I. Introduction

1. Human Rights Internet (HRI), an international non-governmental (NGO) headquartered in Ottawa, Canada, was founded in 1976 on the premise that accurate, comprehensive and timely information is a precondition to the protection and promotion of human rights. Since that time, HRI has evolved into a consulting and capacity building organization, committed to the promotion of human rights in the areas of social justice, good governance and conflict prevention. HRI seeks to accomplish its goals by: Policy formation; Knowledge transfer; Promotion of dialogue; Training, such transferring knowledge and expertise of new technologies particularly to NGOs in the South and other civil society organizations; and Information distribution, such as producing human rights resources including the *Human Rights Tribune* and microfiche collections of human rights material from around the world and making this information available to NGOs and international institutions. The targets of HRI's activities are governments at all levels (federal, regional and municipal), intergovernmental agencies, civil society and the private sector.

PART II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings:

- HRI's Initiative on Conflict Prevention through Quiet Diplomacy program has organized and co-hosted several meetings and conferences:
    - HRI organized and hosted a "Consultation on Options and Techniques for Quiet Diplomacy", a meeting of Secretaries-General of regional and other intergovernmental organizations convoked by the Special Advisor to the *Initiative*, H.E. Max van der Stoel, at New York's Waldorf Astoria Hotel on July 24, 2005.
    - From Sept. 21 to 24, 2005, HRI hosted a regional conference on "Building a Culture of Peace and Preventing Conflict in the Greater Caribbean" in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.
- Representatives from HRI attended and addressed the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict, "From Reaction to Prevention", held at United Nations Headquarters July 19 to 21, 2005.

ii. Cooperation with United Nations Bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters.

- From 1997 to 2003, HRI (in partnership with the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade of the Government of Canada) worked on an annual report of the United Nations human rights system. *For the Record* was a publication in which all relevant United Nations human rights reports, resolutions, recommendations and decisions within the year were summarized as objectively as possible, with hyperlinks to all original United Nations documentation. Copies of the report were widely distributed to both NGOs and governments, to the staff of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to the Special Rapporteurs of the Commission on Human Rights, university libraries, and many others.
- HRI's website and publications (especially the *Human Rights Tribune*) have been extensively used to inform the human rights community worldwide about the work of the United Nations in the area of human rights. HRI has been publishing the *Human Rights Tribune* since 1992. Written for human rights activists, by human rights activists, the *Tribune* covers the worldwide struggle for fundamental rights from the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations, to grassroots movements.
- HRI continued to network in Latin America through the Forum on Citizens' Diplomacy launched in 2002. The Forum brings together individuals and organizations from the various social movements in the region to strategize regarding areas of common interest and to develop plans of actions around the Organization of American States (OAS) and United Nations reform.

- HRI continued to support the United Nations by sending interns to work with its various bodies. Past HRI interns have been placed with the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders (Geneva), the Special Rapporteur on Migrants (San José), and the regional office of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Santiago.

iii. Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of internationally agreed development goals:

Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

- A number of the internships that HRI has implemented focused on issues surrounding HIV/AIDS and other diseases. For example, HRI has been sending interns to work with The Botswana Network on Ethics, Law and HIV/AIDS (BONELA) since 2004.

Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development — make available the benefits of new technologies.

- HRI created a portal to help promote human rights at the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) 1-12 December 2003, Geneva, Switzerland. To facilitate this, HRI compiled official WSIS documents, articles and position papers on human rights and the information society and added related links concerning human rights and information and communication technologies (ICTs). This information was available through HRI's website.
- The 7th Human Rights Internet (HRI) Internet Training Program was held from July 5-9, 2004 in Ottawa, Canada. Designed to increase the capacity of human rights advocates to use new technologies to advance their human rights work, the Internet Training Program (ITP) provided a unique opportunity to participants to acquire technical skills.

iv. Activities in Support of Global Principles

- In 2004 HRI launched a program on conflict prevention: The Initiative on Conflict Prevention through Quiet Diplomacy (ICPQD). Experience has shown that effective prevention of destructive conflict requires co-operative action before violence erupts. ICPQD contends that capable institutions dedicated to preventing conflict by way of quiet diplomacy are an effective yet under-used means to reduce, if not entirely prevent, violent conflict. Quiet, third-party diplomacy establishes and maintains confidence, creates space for dialogue, and encourages conciliation and accord. Early and pro-active engagement over time through institutional mechanisms and a human rights-informed, problem-solving, assistance-oriented approach can be the most effective way to prevent the outbreak of violence.

7. Armenian Assembly of America (Special; 1999)

PART I. Introduction

The Armenian Assembly of America (AAA) is a non-governmental, non-partisan, non-profit national membership organization headquartered in Washington, DC, with offices in Los Angeles, Boston, and Armenia. AAA provides opportunities for the participation of Armenian-Americans in the American democratic process; conducts research, education and advocacy for the universal affirmation of the Armenian Genocide; supports the strengthening of the United States of America-Armenia relations, based on a shared vision for democracy, rule of law, open markets, regional security and unfettered commerce; promotes civil society initiatives in Armenia, encouraging free-market oriented, sustainable and responsible development; and works with other non-partisan advocacy entities and individuals in pursuit of shared goals.

PART II. Contribution of the Organization to the Work of the United Nations

i. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, major conferences and other United Nations meetings

- 59th Annual DPI/NGO (United Nations Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations) Conference, United Nations, New York, 6-8 September 2006
- Forum *Genocide Then and Now: Lessons Learned for the Twenty-first Century*, co-sponsored by Armenian General Benevolent Union, Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations, and Permanent Mission of Rwanda to the United Nations, New York, 30 March 2006
- United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, 49th Session, United Nations, New York, 28 February-11 March 2005
- 58th Annual DPI/NGO Conference, United Nations, New York, 7-9 September 2005
- 57th Annual DPI/NGO Conference, United Nations, New York, 8-10 September 2004
- 56th Annual DPI/NGO Conference, United Nations, New York, 8-10 September 2003
- Roundtable *Information Communication Technology: Education, Equality and Empowerment for the 21st Century*, co-sponsored by the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women and the Committee on the Status of Women of the Conference of NGOs (CONGO) in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations, New York, 15 January 2003

ii. Co-sponsorship of, or other specific contributions to events

- **59th Annual DPI/NGO Conference, New York, 6-8 September 2006**: Co-sponsored and moderated a workshop *Education, Youth and Technology for Sustainable Development*, jointly with the Rotary International, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the CONGO Committee on Education, Information Habitat: Where Information Lives, and the Earthwatch Institute, 7 September 2006. Under oral remarks, AAA Main United Nations representative presented the work of an Armenian NGO (Earth Charter National Committee of Armenia) and the synopsis of a written contribution on the Charter's best practices.

- **United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), 49th Session, New York, 28 February–11 March 2005:** Organized a workshop *Partnership to Empower Girls*, involving education specialists from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Government of Armenia and several women's organizations.
- **57th Annual DPI/NGO Conference, New York, 8-10 September 2004:** Co-sponsored a workshop *Empowering Women Worldwide: Implications for Gender Equity*, jointly with Democracy Watch, Worldwide Network for Gender Empowerment/Fielding Graduate Institute, Institute for the Study of Global Prosperity, and NGO Committee on the Status of Women; sponsored a panelist, who spoke on gender disparity and education in Armenia.
- **56th Annual DPI/NGO Conference, New York, 8-10 September 2003:** AAA United Nations representative served as Media Chair of the Conference Planning Committee; Co-sponsored a workshop *Acting on Human Dignity and Security: From Participatory Theater to Reality on the World Stage*, jointly with the International Federation of Business and Professional Women, the National Council of Negro Women, Soroptimists International, featuring Augusto Boal, Founder, Theater of the Oppressed, Brazil. The workshop discussed the mission and activities of the Theater, a global organization dedicated to bringing art to impoverished audiences, and illustrating challenges facing the poor around the world; Worked, through the Media Chair of the Conference Planning Committee, and in partnership with the CONGO Education Committee, to organize a workshop *Media Perspectives on Human Security and Dignity*, sponsored by the CONGO Education Committee, National Council of Negro Women, Church Women United, and Sister to Sister International. The workshop featured an insider perspective on the media, and offered suggestions to NGOs on how to achieve better coverage of their issues.

iii. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or agencies

AAA worked with UNESCO and the CONGO Committee on Education, to co-sponsor and moderate a workshop *Education, Youth and Technology for Sustainable Development* on 7 September 2006 (59th Annual DPI/NGO Conference, New York).

AAA's United Nations representative served in the following capacities:

- Co-Chair, CONGO Committee on Education, since September 2006
- Acting Co-Chair, CONGO Committee on Education, May-September 2006
- Secretary, CONGO Committee on Education, June 2002-May 2006

Member at Large, CONGO Committee on the Status of Women: CONGO Committee on the Status of Women is a forum for the exchange of information on issues related to women, under consideration by the United Nations system. It assists in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward Looking Strategies, the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action and the Women 2000-Beijing +5 agenda by facilitating discussion and cooperation among interested NGOs and individuals, supports the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and United Nations agencies working to improve the status of women, organizes consultation and training for NGOs attending meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York, briefs NGOs daily during the meetings and hosts an annual reception for NGOs and governments, and sponsors awards

for women diplomats, and women of achievement. Member at large is a category of officers serving on the committee.

iv. Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of internationally agreed development goals, in particular, the Millennium Development Goals

i) Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

AAA contributed to the Millennium Development Goals in Armenia and the South Caucasus, by advocating for, or otherwise contributing to the following:

Goal: Develop a Global Partnership for Development

- United States humanitarian and development assistance to Armenia, special assistance for rural infrastructure development under the United States Millennium Challenge Account, and implementation of Armenia's Poverty Reduction and Rural Development Programs;
- Equitable regional development and integration in the South Caucasus, including access to regional infrastructure and open trade;
- Channeling Diasporan experience and expertise to help Armenia address its development needs and challenges;
- Peaceful settlement of the Nagorno Karabakh conflict;
- Establishment of an NGO Training and Resource Center in Armenia, that has since 2005 evolved into an independent entity, with programs in community development, anti-corruption, HIV/AIDS prevention, peace and stability, social transition, etc.

Goal: Ensure Environmental Sustainability: Environmental awareness and reforestation programs in Armenia through the Assembly's Armenia Tree Project.

ii) **Activities in Support of Global Principles:** AAA is a member of several United States and international NGO coalitions committed to peace and security, development, human rights, as well as fight against the denial of genocide and other crimes against humanity. AAA activities in that regard include advocacy, community activism, academic, educational and media programs, rallies, as well as regular testimonies at relevant hearings before various bodies of the United States Congress.

8. Ukrainian World Congress
(Special; 2003)

PART I. Introduction

i. The aims and purposes of the organization are to establish and maintain an international network of member organizations who have an interest in supporting and promoting Ukrainian nationality, spirit, language, culture and achievements of Ukrainians throughout the world, to coordinate the activities of member organizations, to promote the civic development of Ukrainians in countries of their settlement for the purpose of strengthening their commitment towards democracy

and freedom for all nations in the world, to uphold the rights of every Ukrainian person based on the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and to intervene with governments and/or non-governmental institutions to protect the rights of Ukrainians throughout the world.

Its main course of action is to provide avenues of communication for some 20 million ethnic Ukrainians who reside outside Ukraine. Officers of the UWC regularly visit various communities from North and South America, Europe, to the far reaches of the Russian Federation and Australia. The organization organizes conferences on scholarly and educational topics, human and civil rights issues, democracy and state building. Additionally, the organization attempts to provide social services, medical and humanitarian aid to Ukrainian and sometimes non-Ukrainian communities throughout the world, including Ukraine, to coordinate activities of youth and educational Ukrainian institutions and works with the International Olympic Committee as well as the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine in arranging services for athletic training, etc.

ii. While its broad aims and objectives, as well as the nature of its activities, remain much as described in the submission of 30 May 2001, the UWC has expanded their range into Africa, specifically, Mozambique.

PART II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

In April 2003, the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) was formally accepted in consultative status as a non-governmental organization with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. Since that time to date, the UWC has designated and functioned through the maximum allowable representatives to the United Nations office in New York and one or two representatives to the office in Vienna.

On 26 April 2003, and each year thereafter, the UWC's United Nations representatives have assisted the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations in organizing a Chernobyl anniversary related bazaar at the United Nations, the proceeds of which are used to help the Chernobyl victims.

On 19 September 2003, the UWC United Nations representatives met with Ukraine's Permanent Representative to the United Nations and his assistants to discuss issues of mutual concern, in particular, the upcoming commemoration of Ukraine's Great Famine 1932-33 at the United Nations and to develop lines of communication for the long term. The following specific areas of activity at the United Nations in particular, through the Economic and Social Council and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) were addressed: migrant workers, slave trafficking, Chernobyl, AIDS and assistance to orphanages.

On 10 November 2003, in connection with the 70th anniversary of the Great Famine 1932-33, the UWC together with another Ukrainian ethnic NGO at the United Nations, the World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations extended compliments to the Secretary General of the United Nations with reference to agenda item 179b of the Third Committee of the 59th session of the United Nations General Assembly, submitted and disseminated a Statement at the United Nations offices in New York on the Great Famine 1932-33. The Statement read in part as follows:

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the enforced famine of 1932-33, engineered by the Soviet regime in which 7-10 million Ukrainians perished. The sheer numbers alone would qualify this entry as the world's most massive genocide. We honour the millions of victims of this most heinous mass crime ever committed by man against man. Historians conclude that no nation lost more than the Ukrainian during the XX century. Together the famines, purges, persecutions and wars resulted in over twenty million lives lost ...

On April 14, 2000 at a meeting of the United Nations Security Council on the situation concerning Rwanda, Ukraine's Permanent Representative to the United Nations stated: "For Ukraine genocide is not just a term. We experienced difficult times in our own history; this century alone witnessed an unspeakable tragedy, when more than 7 million people were exterminated within two years by a well-planned famine. These events took place in a country once called the breadbasket of Europe."

On September 24, 2003 at the general debate of the 58th session of the United Nations General Assembly, Ukraine's President urged: "70 years ago the totalitarian Soviet regime engineered an artificial famine in Ukraine, which claimed the lives of 7 to 10 million of our compatriots. Unfortunately, back in 1933 the world did not respond to our tragedy. The international community believed the cynical propaganda of the Soviet Union, which was selling bread abroad while in Ukraine the hunger was killing 17 people a-minute. From this podium, I would like to call upon all of you to pay tribute to the memory of those who perished."

This year the parliament of Ukraine adopted a statement on the 70th anniversary of the Famine honouring the victims and identifying that heinous act as genocide. The legislatures of Argentina, Australia, Canada and the United States of America passed similar resolutions. Others are pending.

Therefore, based on the foregoing, we call upon the governments of the world community of nations and UN non-governmental organizations to recognize the 1932-33 famine in Ukraine as genocide against the Ukrainian people and to remember the 7-10 million innocents who perished.

On 5 March 2004, the UWC issued and disseminated a Statement on global human trafficking to the Forty-eighth session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, 1-12 March 2004. The UWC made the following findings:

- Ukrainian women are the largest group trafficked in Turkey;

- Ukrainian women are the second largest group outside United States military bases in the Republic of Korea;

- Women from CIS countries comprise 70 per cent of trafficking in Israel;

- Ukrainian women constitute the largest foreign group trafficked in the Netherlands;

- 70 percent of Ukrainian women in Poland were trafficked;

- Women from Central, East Europe and CIS countries constitute 80 percent of trafficking in Germany. Other large markets for the slave trade in Ukrainians include: Greece, Cyprus, Italy, Spain,

Yugoslavia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary, Czech Republic, Croatia, United Arab Emirates, Syrian Arab Republic, China, Canada and Japan.

The UWC made the following recommendations to the countries of the United Nations:

- Marshal the political will to combat trafficking;

- Undertake prevention and awareness campaigns;

- Encourage and support the activities of non-governmental organizations;

- Promulgate national legislation to punish traffickers and their facilitators;

- Prioritize law enforcement efforts to arrest and convict traffickers;

- Provide humanitarian services to victims and assist in their reintegration into society;

- Ratify and implement the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime, including the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish the Trafficking of Persons, Especially Women and Children;

- Develop international, regional and bilateral cooperation with countries of origin, transit and destination;

- Accord special focus on the new front for traffickers in Central and East Europe.

In July 2004, the UWC President travelled to Vienna where he met with representatives of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to International Organizations in Vienna, representatives from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Anti-Human Trafficking Unit and the Special Representative on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

On 8-10 September 2004, UWC United Nations representatives participated in the 57th Annual DPI/NGO Conference Millennium Development Goals: Civil Society Takes Action.

On 18 January 2005, the UWC President met with the deputy administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, Kalman Mizsei. UWC United Nations representatives studied the Blue Ribbon Commission report for Ukraine and complements were forwarded to Mr. Mizsei on 14 February 2005.

In January 2006, a UWC United Nations representative participated in a meeting at the United Nations in New York on the issue of slave trafficking in New York.

In March 2006 that UWC United Nations representative travelled to Ukraine where she met with representatives from the Centre for Ukrainian Education Reform, which deals with the issue of slave trafficking. She also met with representatives of the local IOM office in Ukraine to whom she delivered a copy of The Natashas, a book on slave trafficking written by Canadian journalist Victor Malarek, which was translated into Ukrainian for dissemination and funded in part by the UWC.

Additionally, she travelled throughout Ukraine, meeting with several local organizations dealing with this issue.

In March 2006, the UWC President travelled to Rome, Venice and Naples, Italy meeting with large communities of Ukrainian migrants to discuss migration and slave trafficking issues. In Venice the UWC President met with IOM local representatives to discuss these issues as well.

On 28 April 2006, UWC United Nations representatives participated in a session of the United Nations General Assembly dedicated to the 20th anniversary of Chernobyl.

9. International Network of Liberal Women
(Special; 2003)

PART I. Introduction

The aims and purposes of the organization and its main course of action

International Network of Liberal Women (INLW) aims to promote the ideas of liberal democracy world wide, focusing on both national and international levels. We see the equal representation of women in all decision-making processes as essential to this development. We therefore encourage and help all our members to participate actively in all the decision-making processes in their home countries.

We further aim to attack all gender discriminatory practices which impede women participating as full citizens in whatever form they appear, whether physical, civic, economic or legal. We strongly support the aims of the United Nations and Economic and Social Council, and work to promote national adoption and implementation of the United Nations conventions designed to protect and to advance women's status world-wide.

Any change that may have had a significant impact on the organization vision.

b) While the Organization's aims and purposes remained the same, and amendment approved by the General Assembly on 11 November 2006, establishing five delegations in Asia, Africa, South America and Europe, extended the geographical coverage of our activities and facilitated cooperation with NGOs with similar objectives in these regions.

PART II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

2003: Representatives attended the following meetings: 56th Annual Department of Public Information Non Governmental Organizations Conference (DPI/NGO) "Human Security and Dignity: Fulfilling the promise of the United Nations", (New York, United States of America 8-10 September 2003), Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) (New York, United States of America, 30 June-25 July 2003); 59th Session of the Human Rights Commission (Geneva, Switzerland 17 March-26 April).

2004: Representatives attended the following meetings: 48th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the 21 century" (New York, United States of America ,15 March-27 April), 60th Session of the Commission on Human Rights Commission (Geneva, Switzerland, 15 March-27 April 2004), Regional Preparatory Meeting for the 10-year Review of Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, (Geneva, Switzerland, 14-15 December 2004).

2005: Representatives attended 49th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) "Review and appraisal of the Beijing Declaration and platform for Action and the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly" (New York, United States of America, 28 February-11 March 2005) and our organization submitted an oral statement entitled "Women's participation in Peace building" and a written statement entitled "Necessary Institutional mechanisms and reforms for the effective implementation of women's advancement". 61st Session of the Commission on Human Rights (Geneva, Switzerland, April 2005)".

2006: Representatives attended 50th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the 21 century" (New York, United States of America, 27 February-10 March 2006) and our organization submitted an oral statement entitled "Peace and women, indispensable factors in the development "and a written statement entitled "Implementation of strategic objectives and action in critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives: equal participation of women and men in decision-making processes at all levels". Representatives attended the 59th Annual Department of Public Information Non Governmental Organizations Conference (DPI/NGO) Unfinished Business: "Effective Partnerships for Human Security and Sustainable Development" (New York, United States of America 6-8 September 2006). Our organization attended 62nd Session of the Commission on Human Rights (Geneva, Switzerland, 27 March 2006).

iii). Millennium Development Goals:

The organization contributed Millennium Development Goals in the following geographical regions:

Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women. Participation in a Skill Workshop for Women's Empowerment, (Johannesburg, South Africa, 12-14 December 2003). Organization of Local conferences and round tables: Round tables "Women and leadership", (Barcelona, Spain, 23 January 2004). Women's Participation Implementing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, (Barcelona, Spain, 19 April 2006).

Biannual Liberty Prize in Barcelona, Spain.

Assistance to Peace building Conference, San Sebastian, Spain 23 and 24 October 2006).

Declaration presented in INLW Meeting "Trafficking in Human Beings", (Cancun, Mexico, 29-30 April 2007).

Declaration presented in INLW Meeting "Women's participation in economy declaration for sustainable development", (Marrakech, Morocco, 11 November 2006).

Declaration presented in INLW Meeting" Women's, Population, changing demographics and migration" (Philippines, 21 June 2006).

Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger. Declaration presented in INLW Meeting "The fight against poverty: beyond the consensus of Washington" (Costa Rica, 6 November 2004).

Activities in Support of Global Principles. "World Women's Day was participated each 8 March during the years 2003-2006 by the organization.

10. Ligue internationale contre le racisme et l'antisémitisme (Special; 2003)

I. Introduction

(i) At the organization's forty-fifth national congress in January 2007, when it was celebrating its eightieth anniversary, the President of the Ligue internationale contre le racisme et l'antisémitisme (LICRA) said that the League drew its strength from its convictions, the splendid work of its sections and commissions, the dedication of its activists and their commitment over the last 80 years, the credibility it has and the seriousness with which it is taken by those who deal with it. Since 1927, the League has been in the front line of the ceaseless struggle against all forms of racism, anti-Semitism and discrimination. This anti-racist organization, working through its six commissions, upholds its goals and pursues an ambitious, effective and universally recognized grass-roots policy. There is not a day on which its Legal Commission does not counsel and help victims with procedural work; a powerhouse of ideas, it also regularly drafts proposed amendments to new laws. Its History Commission gives impetus to a process of reflection on the great subjects of memory, history and human rights. Because of the priority it gives to secular public schooling, the Education Commission maintains a daily presence in educational institutions through its prevention efforts directed at young people and the training it provides to teachers. The Youth Commission, composed of activists between the ages of 16 and 30, rounds out the organization's pedagogical action, directing all its energy and savoir faire to raising the awareness of the young. The Sports Commission works to inculcate a sense of responsibility and to combat any problems of violence and racism through and in sports. Lastly, the Culture Commission organizes and runs discussion conferences, public encounters, theatre or film evenings, with the collaboration of prominent political and/or cultural personalities, in order to keep the general public informed about major historical and present-day topics.

(ii) Being a dynamic organization as befits the times, the League is quick to seize upon new issues. Two notable developments are highlighted here. First, the League was, in October 2006, assigned an unaccustomed mission by the Minister of the Interior: to act as mediator between the State and 200 undocumented refugees who were homeless and had illegally occupied a gymnasium in the city of Cachan. This sensitive affair, better known in the media as the case of the "expelled squatters of Cachan", had national repercussions. The mediation was successful: after long and bitter negotiations, LICRA succeeded in having the gymnasium evacuated with dignity, having arranged for housing for the entire group and for re-examination of the files of all the undocumented aliens hoping to have their status regularized. Secondly, the League has greatly expanded its activities abroad: new sections have been established, in Italy, for example, or will be set up in the coming months. Also, in

terms of administrative changes, the League has revamped its executive office and its federal council, the bodies that represent the organization's activists, following the re-election of its president at the forty-fifth congress.

II. Contribution of LICRA to the work of the United Nations

(I) The League takes part in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary organs and in United Nations meetings, bringing to them its thinking and its expertise on issues of racism and the defence of human rights.

– *Conference organized at United Nations Headquarters by the NGO Committee on Human Rights of the Conference of NGOs* on 17 March 2005 in New York, United States of America. The League was a joint sponsor of the conference, on the topic "Facing the challenge of racism and anti-Semitism: post-Durban developments", in commemoration of 21 March, the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

– *Conference of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)* on 25 March 2005 in Warsaw, Poland. The League spoke on the topic "Sports, an instrument for combating racism and discrimination", together with the Polish association Never Again.

– *Declaration of the European Parliament* of 14 March 2006 in Strasbourg, France. The League participated in the press conference, and submitted for adoption by the Parliament a declaration on the control of racism in football, the result of its work with the network Football against Racism in Europe (FARE). The declaration was signed by 423 parliamentarians; the League, as the French association delegated by the network, was able to mobilize over 50 French eurodeputies to sign this commitment.

– *Fourth session of the Human Rights Council* from 12 to 30 March 2007 in Geneva, Switzerland. The League submitted an individual statement, a *Declaration on Darfur*, after the High-level Mission on the situation of human rights in Darfur had submitted its report.

– *Conference by the organization Urgence Darfour* on 20 March 2007 in Paris, France. The League was one of the founding members of Urgence Darfour, a collective established in 2003 that today has the support of over 120 French associations. For the last three years, the League has been engaged in the difficult work of raising the awareness of politicians, the media and French public opinion on the crisis. The Conference of 20 March marked a turning point in this mobilization, both politically and in the media. With the candidates for the French presidency in attendance along with many intellectuals and a huge public audience, the event received broad national media coverage, and led to a real awakening of public opinion. The meeting also marked the political commitment of the candidates, who subscribed to an eight-point text drawn up by Urgence Darfour.

– *Fifth session of the Human Rights Council* from 11 to 18 June 2007 in Geneva, Switzerland. The League contributed especially to the report submitted by the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance. A report was published for internal LICRA use to inform its activists about the Human Rights Council's perception of how racism was evolving.

(ii) In respect of the Millennium Development Goals, the League focused on Goal 3: *Promote gender equality and empower women, Target 4: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education* ... Each year, the League makes over 60,000 young people aware of the values of equality and citizenship through more than 1,000 different activities. For example, on 9 March 2005, on International Women's Day, the League coordinated and conducted, in partnership with the Centre international de séjour de Paris, a series of activities, exchanges and discussions on the topic of gender equality. In addition, the League has been working particularly on four of the internationally agreed development goals. First, the League is fighting hard against discrimination and its banalization, and condemns this violation of human dignity so terribly commonplace for the victims. In 2005, it launched a huge national consciousness-raising campaign in the French media (posters, press, radio and television), which made a big impression on the public. Some strong slogans were very instructive — for instance, "The bouncer said to Abdel, 'exclusive party'. Excluding Abdel", "Rachel was mugged coming home from school. Her fault: coming home from school and being Jewish", or "According to some recruiters, there is a mistake in Djamila's CV. Her name is Djamila"; one can now find these slogans in school textbooks. Secondly, the League has put more emphasis on the educational work it does, aimed at raising the consciousness of young people and training them in citizenship, so that they become aware of the dangers of racism and are taught in a school setting, a respect for human beings and a sense of justice and of solidarity. Its work has been validated by the Ministry of National Education's renewal of its agreement with the League, in recognition of the usefulness of its pedagogical mission in the schools. Thirdly, LICRA has taken up the problem of racism on the sports fields and in the sports arenas. In the last three years, it has signed partnership agreements with the Ministry of Sports (2005), the French Football Federation (2005) and the Union of Professional Football Clubs (2007). In this context, it works in the professional and amateur clubs by using tools like the campaign it launched in 2005, "Racism. Silence is acquiescence", or the film "Pseudo-supporter, stay home", which was shown on television and cinema screens in 2006. Since 2004, each October the League has been organizing and coordinating the European Week for Action against Racism in Football, an initiative of the Football against Racism in Europe network, which inspired over 250,000 anti-racist initiatives in Europe. Fourthly, the League is very involved in the subject of a vital democracy. During every election, it runs consciousness-raising campaigns to encourage young citizens in particular to register to vote and to go to the polls. In the regional elections of March 2004, LICRA launched its campaign "Why does voting in the regional elections matter?"; in the May 2005 referendum on the European Constitution, it distributed the poster "Europe is you"; and in the June 2007 elections, its contribution was to distribute 10,000 notices and 100,000 brochures hammering home the message "In 2007 I am going to vote".

11. Heritage Foundation
(Special; 2003)

PART I: Introduction

Purpose: The Heritage Foundation is a research and educational institute whose mission is to formulate and promote public policies based on free enterprise, limited government, individual freedom, traditional American values and a strong national defense. In the international arena, this

mission translates into a strong commitment to promoting peace and security, human rights, and economic and political freedom worldwide, primarily through the work of its Davis Institute for International Studies. The Heritage Foundation complements the work of the United Nations and Economic and Social Council by researching and publishing papers and hosting events on international economic and social issues, international peace and security, and the activities of the United Nations and its funds and programs.

The Heritage Foundation pursues its mission by researching key policy issues and educating the Congress of the United States of America, the Executive Branch of the Government of the United States of America, national and international news media, the academic and policy making community, governments in other nations and the public at large about the Foundation's research and findings. Heritage's efforts to market its message include, but are not limited to: conferences, both public and private; policy oriented reports of varying length, including books; policy discussions with domestic and international policy makers; media promotion of activities through print, radio, television and on-line mediums; outreach to other non-profit organizations/non-governmental organizations and the public at large; external speaking engagements; participation in external conferences and task forces.

Significant changes in membership or resources: The Heritage Foundation has expanded its membership, employment and budget significantly since first applying for consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

a. As of the end of 2006, The Heritage Foundation had 200 employees and 15 temporary workers at its Washington, D.C. headquarters, with two people in its Moscow office. The Foundation also employs 140 interns each year, and has 10-15 paid consultants.

b. Total membership of the Heritage Foundation in 2006 was 281,250 donors. Individual donors numbered 281,023 or more than 99 per cent of the total. Corporate and foundation donors numbered 227 or less than 1 per cent of the total. While the majority of individual donors live in the United States, current donors also come from many other nations and areas, including Argentina, Australia, Bermuda, Brazil, Canada, Cayman Islands, Germany, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico, Netherlands Antilles, Norway, Pakistan, Taiwan, Province of China, China, Republic of Korea, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The Foundation has also had members in Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, and the Russian Federation in recent years.

c. The Foundation's budget increased from $32,722,356 in 2000 to $40,538,328 in 2006. Individual donors accounted for 63 per cent of that income, corporations for 4 per cent, and charities and foundations for 33 per cent. The Heritage Foundation does not maintain a relationship with or receive funding from any government.

PART II:Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i) **Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings**

a. The Heritage Foundation sent a representative to participate in the following meetings:

- Substantive session of Economic and Social Council in 3-28 July 2006 on "Creating an environment at the national and international levels conducive to generating full and productive employment and decent work for all, and its impact on sustainable development".
- The 50th Commission on the Status of Women in 1-6 March 2006. Virginia Thomas from Heritage was a public delegate on the United States delegation. In addition, The Heritage Foundation hosted a well-attended side event for other delegations entitled "Data-Driven Policy: What Development Policies Are Best for Women?"
- The 60th Session of the General Assembly in 13-16 September 2005. During the Session, The Heritage Foundation distributed a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) statement entitled "Alternative Civil Society Recommendations for the Outcome Document of the United Nations World Summit of September 2005" that was signed by over 800 NGO. These recommendations focused on the broad areas of economic development, human rights, and family, civil society, and health.
- The 49th Commission on the Status of Women in 28 February-11 March 2005. The Foundation also hosted a side luncheon event during this session titled "Data-Driven Social Policy: What Does Research Say is Really Best for Women?"

b. The Heritage Foundation is an active member of the United States National Commission to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and contributed heavily to the UNESCO Draft Medium-term Strategy.

c. The Heritage Foundation encouraged and nominated candidates to apply for positions in the United Nations system.

ii) **Activities in Support of Global Principles.** The Heritage Foundation dedicated extensive resources to educating opinion makers and policymakers about policies that promote freedom, economic development, and human rights; how the United Nations assists in achieving those goals and how the United Nations could contribute further or more effectively. Since being granted Special Consultative status, The Heritage Foundation has steadily increased its work in areas related to the work of the Economic and Social Council.

- In 2006, The Heritage Foundation published over 60 research papers on topics covering development, economic policy, trade, human rights, political freedom, economic assistance, social policy, and the United Nations and its subsidiary organizations. This compares favorably to 2005 when The Heritage Foundation published over 50 such papers, 2004 when The Heritage Foundation published over 30 such papers, and 2003 when The Heritage Foundation published over 20 such papers. All publications are available free of charge at www.heritage.org.

- During the period 2005 and 2006, The Heritage Foundation hosted a lecture by Under-Secretary-General for Management, Christopher Burnham, who gave an in depth report of management reforms. Heritage officials also met with Under-Secretary-General Tharoor and Under-Secretary-General Guehenno.
- In 2006, The Heritage Foundation hosted over 10 public and private events on topics directly relating to the United Nations, its subsidiary organizations, and their work. It also held dozens of additional events on topics of interest to the United Nations and the Council such as events on elections in many nations, proliferation, international peace and security, human rights, trade, and economic development. Between 2003 and 2006, The Heritage Foundation hosted over 40 events per year on such topics. Public events are archived at www.heritage.org/press/events/index.cfm.
- Staff at The Heritage Foundation meets frequently with the United States Congress and the Executive Branch of the United States government to provide commentary or advice on policy decisions. From 2003-2006, The Heritage Foundation participated in hundreds of meetings with United States government officials on topics relevant to the Economic and Social Council, including development, economic policy, trade, human rights, political freedom, economic assistance, social policy, and the United Nations and its subsidiary organizations.
    - The United States Congress asked The Heritage Foundation to be one of six organizations to collaborate on a report on United Nations reform in 2005. Four staff members participated in the working groups. The final report, *American Interests and UN Reform: Report of the Task Force on the United Nations*, was published by the United States Institute for Peace.
- Staff at The Heritage Foundation met frequently with officials and elected representatives from other countries to discuss these topics.

The Heritage Foundation has a robust relationship with the media in the United States and other nations as part of its effort to educate and inform the public about policy. During the period 2003 to 2006, staff at The Heritage Foundation appeared in hundreds of television, radio, and print media outlets to discuss topics relevant to the Economic and Social Council, including development, economic policy, trade, human rights, political freedom, economic assistance, social policy, and the United Nations and subsidiary organizations.

12. Freedom House
(Special; 1995)

I. Introduction

***i.* Organization's Aims and Purposes:** Freedom House is a clear voice for democracy and freedom around the world. Founded in 1941 by Eleanor Roosevelt, Wendell Willkie and other citizens of the United States of America concerned with the mounting threats to peace and democracy, Freedom House has been a strong proponent of democratic values and a steadfast opponent of dictatorships of the far left and the far right.

Freedom House is a leading advocate of the world's young democracies that are coping with the debilitating legacies of tyranny, dictatorship and political repression. The organization conducts an array of advocacy, education, and training initiatives that promote human rights, democracy, the rule of law, independent media, and United States of America's engagement in international affairs.

Finally, Freedom House's annual standard-setting publications draw attention to global trends in democracy, cast a public light upon dictatorships, and are regularly used as references by journalists worldwide, policymakers, nongovernmental organizations, and the United States government.

Freedom House Reports and Publications

a) Freedom of the World is an annual survey on the state of political rights and civil liberties in each of the world's 193 countries. The survey's methodology is based on the Universal Declaration of Human rights. First published in 1972, the publication plays a uniquely influential role in policymaking and intellectual circles, and its findings are used and referenced by government officials, members of Congress, and the press in debates about United States foreign policy and current events. *Freedom in the World* rankings for political rights and civil liberties are used as official criteria by the Millennium Challenge Corporation, a foreign assistance agency of the United States government.

b) Freedom of the Press: A Global Survey of Media Independence covers trends in media freedom in every country in the world. The survey rates the level of press freedom in each country on a numerical basis and provides a brief written summary of the year's main developments. These summaries include information on the legal environment for press freedom, political influences on content and economic pressures that restrict the operation of independent media.

c) Nations in Transit: Now in its twelfth edition, *Nations in Transit* (NIT) is a comprehensive survey of political reform in the post-Communist world. NIT is used by the State Department of the United States of America in determining foreign assistance priorities, and its findings are widely debated and discussed by the press and government officials, both in the United States of America as well as in the countries examined by the survey.

d) Countries at the Crossroads: This is a survey of governance performance in 60 strategically important countries worldwide that are at a critical crossroads in determining their political future. The survey stresses such issues as the rule of law, official corruption and accountability, and gives recommendations for future developments.

e) How Freedom Is Won: Released in spring 2005, this study examines political transitions since 1972, based on the 32-year time series and narrative data of the *Freedom in the World* survey. The report was published in collaboration with the International Center on Non-Violent Conflict. The study's key findings — that transitions from authoritarian regimes succeed in creating freer societies when broad-based, non-violent civic movements have been a key factor in the transition — have been the source of discussions in a series of conferences in the United States and Europe and have provoked comment in the *Economist* and *Financial Times*.

Freedom House Programs: Freedom House runs an array of programs that support democracy and human rights advocates around the world to strengthen freedom and human rights in their countries.

a) Uzbekistan: Freedom House supports human rights defenders from Uzbekistan through training and networking activities. In 2006, Freedom House brought a delegation of Uzbek human rights defenders to Geneva to meet with Geneva-based NGOs and United Nations representatives in order to prepare them for their submission of an alternative report to present before the Committee against Torture in its 39th session, 5-23 November 2007, when the Uzbek government presented its report.

b) Islamic Republic of Iran/Gozaar Project: In 2006, Freedom House launched the English/Iranian webzine 'Gozaar' ('transition'), an online magazine focused on the promotion of democracy and human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran. Gozaar provides space for the exchange of ideas related to the theory and practice of democracy, aims to revitalize public debate on democratic reform in the Islamic Republic of Iran, and stimulates the production of new, original writing on democracy and a prospective democratic transition in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

c) Democratic People's Republic of Korea: Freedom House, along with its Asian and European partners, has remained resolute on continuing to raise awareness of the egregious human rights violations occurring in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The organization held high-profile international conferences in Rome ("Promoting Human Rights and Religious Freedom in North Korea: Where do we go from here?", 12 July 2006), Seoul ("SEOUL SUMMIT: Promoting Human Rights in North Korea," 8-10 December 2005) and Brussels (international platform for human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, 22 March 2006) and collaborated with other advocacy groups focused on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. In October 2006, Freedom House advocated for and promoted the United States premier of "Yoduk Story," a musical about an infamous political prison camp in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in Bethesda, Maryland (4-6 October) and Los Angeles, California (19-22 October), the United States of America.

d) The American Committee for Peace in the Caucasus (ACPC): This Freedom House project is devoted to protecting the diverse cultures and peoples who are threatened by the spread of violence in the North Caucasus, as a result of the ongoing war in Chechnya, Russian Federation, and outbreaks of violence elsewhere in the region. The Committee seeks to expand the international support networks for human rights defenders and local nongovernmental organizations that are at risk of becoming further isolated from the international community.

II. Contribution of the Organization to the Work of the United Nations

i) Freedom House in Geneva: As a nongovernmental organization accredited to the United Nations Economic and Social Council, Freedom House frequently participates in human rights meetings in Geneva. Its activities are inspired by a commitment to the values of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. During 2003, 2004 and 2005, Freedom House sent delegations to Geneva to attend the 59th, 60th and 61st sessions of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. During these meetings, Freedom House presented the findings of its "Worst of the Worst," a listing of the world's most repressive regimes. The delegation also raised the issue of the persecution of human rights

activists in some societies, and met with Commission members, United Nations Special Rapporteurs and government delegates in order to provide them with information on human rights issues.

In 2006, in response to Secretary-General Kofi Annan's stated intention to reform the United Nations' human rights machinery, Freedom House was very engaged in the effort to create a new United Nations Human Rights Council in place of the former Commission on Human Rights. Freedom House advocated for a stronger mechanism for membership in the Council, as well as a structure that would genuinely promote human rights worldwide. In September 2006, Freedom House sent a delegation to Geneva for the Council's second session, which took place during 18 September to 6 October 2006. The group hosted a panel event on 25 September 2006, "Freedom of Association: International Backlash against NGOs, and the Role The United Nations Democracy Caucus Should Play to Defend It," highlighting human rights activists from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Viet Nam, and Algeria, and met with Special Rapporteurs, as well as government delegates.

ii) Community of Democracies (*United Nations Democracy Caucus*): The Community of Democracies is an international coalition of democratic states dedicated to strengthening democratic values and institutions. Freedom House has been actively engaged in the Community of Democracies (CD) process since its official launch in Warsaw, Poland in June 2000, and helped to organize the first nongovernmental forum so that civil society could also participate in the CD process. Together with the Democracy Coalition Project and the Transnational Radical Party of Italy, Freedom House continued to work to strengthen the Community of Democracies process in 2004 - 2006 by conducting individual meetings with representatives of member states, as well as by issuing press releases and reports on the topic. Together with the Transnational Radical Party and the Democracy Coalition Project, Freedom House hosted an off-the-record discussion "Challenges and Priorities Facing the United Nations Democracy Caucus," in New York on 18 September 2006.

13. Transnational Radical Party (General; 1995)

Introduction

The Transnational Radical Party (TRP) is the evolution of a Gandhian non-violent international political organization founded in Italy in 1955. The TRP is a membership-based organization to which anybody can be a member regardless of gender, race or philosophical and political orientation. Members include everyday citizens as well as elected officials, both from Parliaments and Governments of different countries and different political affiliations. All members pay their dues on an annual basis. The amount is set for 1% of the member's residence country's per capita GDP.

Since its affiliation with the Economic and Social Council in 1995, the TRP has participated in several United Nations fora and focused its United Nations-related work on the promotion and ascertainment of civil and political rights; support for all bilateral and multilateral actions to promote democracy worldwide; support of the activities of the United Nations ad hoc and special Tribunals and for the establishment of an International Criminal Court; the support of the adoption by the United Nations

General Assembly of a universal moratorium of capital executions; support for a reform of the United Nations Conventions on Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances; support for use of Internet Technologies the world over to foster civil liberties and democracy; as well as support for freedom of scientific research and for a civilian conversion of military expenses and linguistic rights.

Participation in United Nations Conferences, Commissions, Committees and other meetings: For the four years, the TRP has sent delegations to the high level segments of the substantive sessions of the Economic and Social Council. The TRP has sent delegations to the 59th , 60th and 61st sessions of the Commission on Human Rights and to the 1st and 2nd session of the UN Human Rights Council delivering statements on civil, political and economic, social and cultural rights; women's, children's as well as indigenous rights. In addition, the TRP has organized, in collaboration with other United Nations-affiliated NGOs, briefings for delegations as well as meetings with the press at the United Nations in Geneva on the issues of the role of the community of democracies in the human rights reform, religious freedom, freedom of scientific research, the moratorium of death penalty.

The TRP also participated in the 3rd Session of the Human Rights Council, 29 November to 8 December 2006 with a joint written statement on the disappearance of the Panchen Lama.

The TRP has sent delegations to the 55th and 56th sessions of the Sub-Commission on Human Rights, delivering statements on racial discrimination, economic social, cultural and indigenous rights as well as administration of justice. The TRP has organized briefings for delegations as well as meetings with the press at the United Nations in Geneva.

The TRP has sent delegations to the 46th, 47th, 48th and 49th sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs delivering statements on treatment for addicts, drug-related prison sentences, supply reduction, and to introduce licensed opium production in Afghanistan for pharmaceutical painkillers. In addition a delegation attended the 2003 Ministerial Segment of the Commission participating in the activities organized by the Vienna NGO Committee on Alcohol and Substance Abuse at the United Nations in Vienna.

The TRP has sent delegations to the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations in 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 at the United Nations Headquarter in New York, participating in several interacting sessions.

The TRP has sent delegations to the 56th, 57th, 58th and 59th Annual Department of Public Information/NGO Conference at the United Nations Headquarter in New York.

From 10 to 12 December 2003, the TRP has sent delegates to the Preparatory Committee for the UN World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and its inter-sessional meetings from 15 to 18 July 2003 at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France. TRP's position papers have been formally submitted

to the WSIS and can be retrieved at the Summit's site http://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-s/md/03/wsispc3/c/S03-WSISPC3-C-0045!!PDF-E.pdf. The TRP sent a delegation to the Summit in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003, where, together with the World Federalist Movement, it organized a briefing on "Democracy and the Digital Divide".

From September 8 to 12, 2003, the TRP sent a delegation to the United Nations Development Programme 5th International Conference of New or Restored Democracies held in Mongolia and to its Civil Society Forum. A TRP member was accredited by the Italian Government to the Conference as the NGO person on the Italian delegation.

The TRP participated in the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) held in two phases: the first one in Geneva, hosted by the Government of Switzerland from 10 to 12 December 2003, and the second one in Tunis hosted by the Government of Tunisia, from 16 to 18 November 2005, where it organized a briefing entitled "P2P File-Sharing, Digital Rights, and e-Democracy" to stress the importance guaranteeing freedom of expression and communication through the Internet.

In 10-21 May 2004 and 15-26 May 2006, the TRP has sent a delegation to the 3rd and 5th Sessions of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in New York and organized a side event with organizations affiliated with the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

In March 2005, the TRP sent a delegation to the 49th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York (28 February-11 March 2005) and held meetings with its members.

Relations with other non-governmental organizations: Over the years, the TRP has participated in the activities of several NGO Committees and coalitions such as the NGO Committee on Alcohol and Substance Abuse both in New York and Vienna, the NGO Coalition for the International Criminal Court, and the NGO Coalition for an International Auxiliary Language, which it co-founded and the NGO Human Rights Committee in New York. From 2003 to 2006 the TRP continued to be part of a Steering group of NGOs that promotes activities concerning the reform of the United Nations Human Rights system. For eight years the TRP has been a member of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organization in Consultative Status (CONGO).

In June 2006, the TRP, jointly with the organization Hands Off Cain, launched the campaign "Hands off Saddam" with the goal of a suspension of the execution of Saddam Hussein. A campaign endorsed by dozens of Nobel Laureates, hundreds of parliamentarians and supported by public opinion worldwide.

Other international fora: A delegation of the TRP has participated in the Third Ministerial Meeting of Community of Democracies (COD) in Santiago, Chile from April 28th to April 30th 2005. The

TRP was part of a group of leaders of human rights and pro-democracy organizations that issued a call for action to the newly created United Nations Democracy Caucus. The Caucus was mandated by the Community of Democracies' (COD) process, a global coalition of over 100 democratic and democratizing nations committed to the promotion and strengthening of democracy and human rights. The group appealed in a letter to the foreign ministers of the Convening Group countries of the COD to ensure that the Democracy Caucus would have taken a lead role in Geneva to censuring some of the world's worst human rights violations. The TRP has participated in sessions of the Assembly of State Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court in New York and The Hague.

The TRP maintains a web site at www.radicalparty.org where press releases, action alerts as well as a variety of United Nations-related position papers can be found. It also publishes a free of charge electronic newsletter English, French, Spanish, Italian and Esperanto called Radical Fax, which contains updates on its United Nations-related activities.

Promotion of the United Nations: In addition to participating in ad hoc meetings concerning the role and possible developments of the United Nations system, several TRP members have issued public statements and published commentaries in major newspapers on the subject of the United Nations. In particular, a worldwide mobilization was launched in January 2003, to gather support for a non-violent resolution of the Iraqi crisis and to urge a prominent role of the United Nations in the nation building process of that country. Thousands of citizens from over 160 countries endorsed the idea as well as some 600 Parliamentarians from a dozen countries.

Also, in 2006, the TRP, jointly with Hands Off Cain, re-launched its campaign to promote the adoption by the United Nations of a resolution to call on United Nations member states to adopt a moratorium on capital executions, focusing on the leadership role that the United Nations can play in the advancement of international law and human rights.